

business recycling solutions



Recycling – Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

Towards Sustainability Environmentally-friendly Paper

Although a business can do a lot to reduce the amount of paper that it uses in daily operations, some paper use may still be necessary. When purchasing paper, businesses should choose environmentally-friendly papers such as:

Recycled-content Paper – When considering recycled paper, look for higher amounts of post-consumer recycled content. Thirty percent post-consumer recycled-content copy paper is widely available, of high quality and is comparable in cost to non-recycled paper.

Chlorine-free Paper – Chlorine-free paper is categorized as either “totally chlorine-free” (TCF) or “elementally chlorine-free” (ECF). Recycled paper can also be “processed-chlorine-free” (PCF).

Tree-free Paper – Tree-free papers are generally produced from plant sources, such as kenaf, straw or hemp, that regrow rapidly and that do not disrupt natural ecosystems in the harvesting process. They also require

considerably less energy and chemical input than does the processing of wood-based pulp.

By choosing more environmentally-friendly paper for your company’s forms, copies and outreach materials, you help to minimize the use of natural resources and reduce your impact on people and the environment.

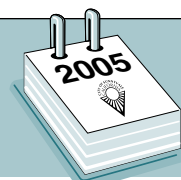
For more information, visit the following websites:

www.recycledproducts.org: The Recycled Products Cooperative’s website contains information on group purchasing of recycled paper and office products.

www.conservatree.com: Conserva-tree’s website covers environmental paper information and retailers.

www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Paper: The California Integrated Waste Management Board’s website includes information on recycled, chlorine-free and tree-free paper.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Business Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events

Sept. 16 • Oct. 14 • Nov. 18

Qualifying businesses may participate by appointment only.
(408) 299-7300
www.hhw.org

Refuse Report Service to Fit Your Needs

Did you know that refuse service can be sized to fit your business in a number of different ways? For bin service, you may choose the size (one to six cubic yards), frequency of collection (one to six days per week), and number of bins to best manage the type and amount of refuse generated.

For instance, a food establishment may want to use a smaller bin with more frequent service days to prevent odors and to avoid making the bin too heavy to be serviced. On the other hand, a company generating primarily dry material may choose to use a larger bin serviced less frequently to reduce costs and minimize on-site truck traffic. Since seasonal fluctuations may affect the amount of garbage produced, your business may increase or decrease service as needed during those times.

Before making any changes, please ensure that your new service will not result in overflowing bins (lids must be kept closed) or odors. Call the City of Sunnyvale Utilities at (408) 730-7681 to make any service changes.

Refuse Contacts

City of Sunnyvale Utilities

Garbage service changes, billing, bin cleaning, graffiti removal
(408) 730-7681

Start being green, save resources and money!

It's easy to become a Green Business! The County of Santa Clara, Santa Clara Valley Water District, PG&E, and your City can help find ways to reduce your water, energy, and garbage bills. Identifying ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle helps the environment and your bottom line. Rebates and other incentives may also be available.

To find out more about the Green Business Program or to sign-up, call (408) 441-4329.



Green Business
Santa Clara County
and Cities



Green Business candidate Cupertino Electric learns about their water usage from a Santa Clara Valley Water District representative.

Recycle It!

Free Rechargeable Battery Recycling

The **Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC)**, a national non-profit public service organization, offers businesses a no-cost recycling program for used rechargeable batteries (ni-cad, nickel metal hydride, lithium ion, and small sealed lead under 2 lbs.). Businesses that sign up to participate in RBRC's recycling program receive pre-paid, pre-addressed boxes for the collection of used rechargeable



batteries and cell phones. Rechargeable batteries are used in a variety of business tools such as two-way radios, laptop computers, portable power tools, cell phones, barcode readers, emergency lighting and other portable electronics. For more information or to sign up for this easy-to-use, no-cost program, please visit www.rbrc.org or call 1-800-BATTERY (1-800-822-8837).

Recycling Contacts

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling
Cardboard Recycling Service
(408) 566-1804

City of Sunnyvale
Commercial Recycling Program
www.sunnyvalerecycles.org
(408) 730-7484
jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

Your Inquiries

Q If our company has to pay for recycling services, how can I convince our management to start a recycling program?

A In many cases, a recycling program can result in a net cost savings even if you have to pay for recycling service(s).

Your business can use some of the garbage cost savings to cover the new recycling service(s) and still break even or realize a cost savings by recycling. The environmental savings are often great selling points too!

After implementing a recycling program, monitor your garbage bin for several weeks to determine if your service can be reduced. Call the Commercial Recycling Program at (408) 730-7484 for assistance.

Send your questions to jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Business Recycling Solutions is available online at www.sunnyvalerecycles.org

Follow the steps below to do a preliminary monthly cost savings estimate for your business:

- _____ %
- x _____ cy (A)
- = _____ cy (B)
- _____ cy (A)
- _____ cy (B)
- = _____ cy
- x 4 = _____ cy (C)

- Step 1:** Track your garbage for 1-2 weeks and estimate the **percentage of your waste that is recyclable each week**
- Step 2:** Multiply that percentage by your **total cubic yards (cy) of weekly garbage service** (i.e. garbage bin size x no. of collections/wk.)
- Step 3:** List your total cubic yards of weekly garbage service
- Step 4:** Subtract the **projected total cubic yards of weekly recyclables**
- Projected new weekly garbage service needs**
- Step 5:** Determine how you could change the **frequency and/or size of your garbage bin** to meet the projected new garbage service needs.
- _____ cy bin collected _____ /wk. = _____ cy/mo. (C)
- Step 6:** List your **current monthly garbage charges**; garbage rates are at www.sunnyvalerecycles.org (click on "Businesses" then "Refuse Collection Rates")
- Step 7:** Subtract your **projected monthly garbage charges**, determined by service listed in Step 5
- Projected monthly cost savings on garbage service.**
- Step 8:** To determine your final monthly cost savings, you must subtract any monthly fees for recycling services.
- MONTHLY SAVINGS**



\$ _____

- \$ _____

= \$ _____

- \$ _____

= \$ _____

